

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 066801
ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT:MR
APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES
EUR/WE:EMROWELL
AF:WESCHAUFEE
S/S - MR.SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066801

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, UNSC, SF

SUBJECT: LETTER FROM SECRETARY ON SOUTHERN AFRICA

REF: STATE 62940
PLEASE DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM
SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER GUIRINGAUD IN RESPONSE TO
FRENCH LETTER OF MARCH 18 CONTAINED REFTEL. ORIGINAL
BEING POUCHED AND COPY BEING DELIVERED FRENCH EMBASSY.

BEGIN TEXT:

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DEAR MR. MINISTER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER, DELIVERED BY THE FRENCH
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON ON MARCH 18, 1977, IN WHICH YOU
EXPRESS YOUR CONCERN OVER THE DIRECTION OF OUR JOINT
EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF SOUTHERN AFRICA,
ESPECIALLY IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. I APPRECIATE YOUR

BRINGING TO MY ATTENTION YOUR VIEWS CONCERNING THE DRAFT "DECLARATION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA" WHICH IS CURRENTLY BEING WORKED OUT BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FRENCH, BRITISH, GERMAN, CANADIAN AND US MISSIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

I WAS GRATIFIED TO LEARN FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG THAT FRANCE HAS AGREED WITH THE FOUR OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON A WORKING DRAFT OF A SECURITY COUNCIL DECLARATION AND HAS JOINED IN DISCUSSING THE DRAFT WITH AFRICAN DELEGATIONS. AS YOU KNOW, THE PURPOSE OF THE DECLARATION IS TO CHART AN AGREED SET OF PRINCIPLES WITH THE AFRICANS FOR USE AS THE BASIS FOR CONCERTED ACTION ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THE DECLARATION WILL HELP TO CLARIFY THE POSITION OF THE UN WITH REGARD TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. TOGETHER WITH OTHER MEASURES THE WEST MIGHT TAKE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE DECLARATION WILL SERVE TO DEMONSTRATE TO AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL VIEW DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE DECLARATION NOW BEING WORKED UPON BY OUR DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK WILL NOT BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR ACTION, EVEN IF IT IS ADOPTED BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL. ADDITIONAL STEPS WILL BE NECESSARY.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WILL
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RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THE DEMARCHE ON NAMIBIA WHICH WE ARE PLANNING TO UNDERTAKE TOGETHER WITH YOU AND THE OTHER WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. CERTAINLY, IF SOUTH AFRICA FAILS TO PURSUE AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION FOR NAMIBIA, WE WILL HAVE TO EXPECT SEVERAL RESOLUTIONS, PERHAPS IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE, BEING TABLED IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL WHICH WOULD CALL FOR STRONGER MEASURES AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, INCLUDING CHAPTER VII. WE WILL HAVE TO REVIEW OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS SHOULD THAT OCCUR AND DETERMINE WHAT COURSE TO PURSUE.

I LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THESE MATTERS WITH YOU IN GREATER DETAIL WHEN WE MEET IN PARIS ON APRIL 2.
SINCERELY, CYRUS VANCE.

END TEXT.
VANCE

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